

My patient soon rallied, and felt very comfortable, occasionally discharging small quantities of hydatids, but without any pain. In a few hours, she slept well, passed urine freely, and passed an excellent night. She stated that her breasts had been "tender and lumpy" till about a week ago, when they began to diminish in size, becoming soft and flaccid, and without any secretion of milk. During the two following days, hydatids continued to be discharged, after which the lochia assumed their usual course, and her recovery was as rapid and favourable as under an ordinary accouchement attended with hæmorrhage. At the expiration of a month, she was quite well, and following her usual avocations and habits.

It is perhaps to be regretted that neither the weight nor measure of the ejected matters could be ascertained; but, in private practice, such accurate details are rarely obtainable: the quantity, however, may be easily surmised, from the size which the uterus had attained.

REMARKS. The foregoing case may perhaps not be a solitary one, but I have not been able to discover any record of a like one, and it consequently appears to me worthy of publication. I apprehend—

1. That impregnation took place, but at what period must be uncertain; for menstruation (?) continued regular till within the preceding ten weeks.

2. That the ovum, from some cause or other, became "blighted".

3. That the placenta, being situated so as to occlude the os uteri, became subject to that condition favourable to the development of hydatids, which could not be expelled until the uterus became so distended as to bring on its contractions, as at the full period of natural gestation.

## Periscope.

### SURGERY.

#### FROTTEMENT IN INFLAMMATION OF THE SHEATHS OF TENDONS.

DR. HENRY THOMPSON, Surgeon to the Tyrone Infirmary, has a note on this subject in the *Dublin Hospital Gazette* for June 15th, 1857.

Three cases occurred to him lately, in which the patients complained of pain in different parts of the forearm, the cause of which, without the physical signs above mentioned, would have been obscure. In each instance the patient had been engaged in some work to which he had been previously unaccustomed. One gentleman was so anxious to get his potatoes set, that he took the spade in his own hand, and laboured with it the greater part of a day. Next morning his arm was useless, from a severe pain along the radial side of the forearm, increased to torture whenever he moved his thumb, on which occasions he was sensible of a creaking sound in his arm, so remarkable, that it was mistaken for the crepitus of a fractured bone by the gentleman to whom he first applied; and when Dr. Thompson saw the limb it was done up in splints and bandages *secundum artem*. He placed a stethoscope on the part, and made the patient apply his ear to it, when he at once compared the noise to the creaking of a new shoe.

A young lady, very fond of the piano and harp, became suddenly, and to herself unaccountably, incapacitated from practising, from a pain along the front of the forearm, in the course of the flexor tendons, greatly increased by stretching the fingers. By catechising her pretty closely, Dr. Thompson found she had been busily engaged in preparing a house for a newly married relative, and had been employing herself in sewing carpets, which were new and heavy, and required a great deal of force to pull the breadths into their places. This was quite enough. On applying his fingers and moving hers, he felt the grating, and at once diagnosed the case.

The other was in an hospital patient, and was very similar to that first described. There was some slight fulness in the affected parts, as well as some tenderness on pressure; but neither was very remarkable, the great complaint being the pain on motion. The cure was somewhat tedious in all, and seemed to be favoured by rest, a few leeches, and cold washes at first, and subsequently by tincture of iodine and liniments; but ultimately both pain and frottement disappeared.

### INTERNAL REMEDIES IN STRANGULATED HERNIA.

CASE I. *Strangulated Hernia returned, under the Influence of Acetate of Lead Enemata.* Dr. FLÖGEL relates the following case:—Mr. N., whilst dancing, felt an inguinal hernia on the right side (from which he had suffered for some time) becoming strangulated. Taxis, ice, and leeches, did no good; vomiting set in; and, twenty-seven hours after the strangulation, there was much prostration and hiccough; pulse 140, small and intermitting; skin cold. The hernial tumour was of the size of a goose's egg, hard, immovable, of a dark red, and slightly painful on pressure. An enema was then given, composed of grs. xxij of sugar of lead, in half a pound of water; some ice was, besides, put upon the tumour. An hour afterwards, vomiting and hiccough were less frequent; the enema was repeated. The tumour then became less hard, and the sickness and hiccough ceased; pulse 128. The patient then slept for half an hour, and the swelling diminished one-half, became soft, and was easily reduced. Alvine evacuations were then obtained by purgatives, and the patient left the hospital in perfect health. Dr. Flögel ascribes the successful result to the styptic action of the saturnine salt, which, by causing retraction of the intestine, both in the longitudinal and transverse directions, draws the herniated portion of the bowel into the abdomen. Dr. Flögel adds, that he failed in one case only, viz., that of an old inguinal hernia, where numerous adhesions had formed. The dose of the acetate of lead is from fifteen grains to half a drachm for each enema. The enemata have been administered every hour, without any unpleasant effects. (*Ester. Zeitschr. für prakt. Heilkunde*; and *Lancet*.)

CASE II. *Strangulated Hernia reduced under the influence of the Internal use of Extract of Belladonna.* M. Burgatti relates the case of a man, aged 42, who, whilst busy removing heavy logs of wood, felt a sudden violent pain in the right groin, a tumour in the same region appearing at the same time. He was obliged to keep his bed; soothing applications were used during the night. Dr. Burgatti found in the morning an inguinal hernia, the tumour of the size of a hen's egg, hard, and not as yet descended into the scrotum. The symptoms of strangulation were very severe. Taxis was immediately tried, but the patient could not bear it. M. Burgatti then gave two grains of extract of belladonna every four hours, day and night, and ordered enemata of sweet oil, in which dried camomile had been digested. No change next day was observed in the patient's condition; food and liquids were alike rejected, but the tumour was less hard. The same treatment was followed. Much improvement was observed on the following day; the vomiting had stopped, and an alvine evacuation had taken place; the face was less anxious; and the patient felt better. Reduction was then extremely easy; and in the course of three days the patient completely recovered. (*Il Raccoglit. medico di Fano*; and *Lancet*.)

## British Medical Journal.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1857.

### SUBURBAN FILTH.

A WRITER in the *Times*, under the signature of M.R.C.S., calls attention to the necessity for a more stringent supervision of all houses erected for the poor. As he very justly observes, the authorities have taken precaution that fresh air shall be supplied to emigrants on board ship, where it is sometimes difficult to provide it; yet on land, where nothing is easier, the parsimony and the fraud of builders but too often show themselves in running up cottages in which every condition of health is neglected, and successive crops of fevers and other epidemics are ensured for unborn generations. A very capital sketch appeared in *Household Words*, the other day, of the deplorable condition of that debatable ground between the metropolis and the country, known as the suburbs of London. Here,